


17. (amended) The information processing method according to claim 11,
wherein the second privilege information is provided in accordance with the degree of
contribution to a business relating to provision of the second privilege information of an
act that the user has performed in the real world or the degree of credibility that the
user has acquired by an act that the user has performed in the real world.

REMARKS

This Preliminary Amendment is requested prior to the initial examination of the
above-identified patent application to address minor matters of form and syntax. No
new matter has been added. If the Examiner has any suggestions for placing this
application in even better form, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned
and the number listed below.

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Respectfully submitted,


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APPENDIX

1. (amended) A communication system comprising:

a first management apparatus for managing first privilege information generated in accordance with a transaction that is conducted by a user via a network in a virtual world and first identification information to be used for identifying the user in such a manner that they are correlated with each other; and

a second management apparatus for managing second privilege information that is generated in accordance with a transaction conducted by the user in a real world and second identification information to be used for identifying the user in such a manner that they are correlated with each other,

wherein at least one of the first management apparatus and the second management apparatus converts the first or second privilege information that is managed by the other into privilege information to be managed by itself, and manages the privilege information obtained by the conversion.

7. The communication system according to claim 2, wherein at least one of the first management apparatus and the second management apparatus performs the processing of issuing the point.

9. The communication system according to claim 1, wherein the first management apparatus provides the first privilege information in accordance with a the degree of contribution to a business relating to the first management apparatus of an

act that the user has performed in the virtual world or ~~a~~ the degree of credibility that the user has acquired by an act that the user has performed in the virtual world.

10. The communication system according to claim 1, wherein the second management apparatus provides the second privilege information in accordance with a the degree of contribution to a business relating to the second management apparatus of an act that the user has performed in the real world or ~~a~~ the degree of credibility that the user has acquired by an act that the user has performed in the real world.

11. An information processing method comprising the steps of:

managing first privilege information generated in accordance with a transaction that is conducted by a user via a network in a virtual world by manipulating a terminal apparatus and first identification information to be used for identifying the user in such a manner that they are correlated with each other; and

managing second privilege information generated in accordance with a transaction that is conducted by the user in a real world and second identification information to be used for identifying the user in such a manner that they are correlated with each other; and;

converting, by at least one of a first management apparatus and a second management apparatus, the first or second privilege information that is managed by the other into privilege information to be managed by itself; and managing the privilege information obtained by the conversion.

16. The information processing method according to claim 11, wherein the first privilege information is provided in accordance with ~~a~~ the degree of contribution to a

business relating to provision of the first privilege information of an act that the user has performed in the virtual world or ~~a~~ the degree of credibility that the user has acquired by an act that the user has performed in the virtual world.

17. The information processing method according to claim 11, wherein the second privilege information is provided in accordance with ~~a~~ the degree of contribution to a business relating to provision of the second privilege information of an act that the user has performed in the real world or ~~a~~ the degree of credibility that the user has acquired by an act that the user has performed in the real world.